REMARKS

Claims 1, 7-10 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bright et al. (US 6,752,663 B2). Claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bright et al. (US 6,752,663 B2). Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bright et al. (US 6,752,663 B2) in view of Carey, II et al. (US 6,858,322 B2). Claims 1-10 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang (US 6,478,622 B1) in view of Goodman et al. (US 5,037,331). Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang (US 6,478,622 B1) in view of Goodman et al. (US 5,037,331) and Carey, II et al. (US 6,858,322 B2). Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi et al. (US 6,926,557 B1) in view of Goodman et al. (US 5,037,331). Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi et al. (US 6,926,557 B1) in view of Goodman et al. (US 5,037,331) and Carey, II et al. (US 6,858,322 B2). The examiner is requested to reconsider these rejections.

Claim 4 has been cancelled and its features have been added to claim 1. Claim 4 was previously rejected as being unpatentable over:

- Hwang (US 6,478,622 B1) in view of Goodman et al. (US 5,037,331); and
- Yamaguchi et al. (US 6,926,557 B1) in view of Goodman et al. (US 5,037,331).

While Goodman et al. discloses an electrical connector with a diecast member 32 and a sheet metal shell 24, there appears to be no suggestion to combine Goodman et al. with Hwang or Yamaguchi et al. to produce applicants' claimed invention. Hwang discloses a grounding device 90 made from a single piece of blank material such as metal plate. Mainframe 10 is also disclosed as being made from a single piece of blank material such as metal plate. From the examiner's rejection involving Hwang, it appears that the examiner believes that it would be obvious to make the grounding device 90 as a diecast member. This is incorrect. Grounding device 90 needs to have grounding fingers 912, 932, 952 and spring tab 954 which can resiliently deflect as springs (see column 5, lines 17-26). If the grounding device 90 was made as a diecast member, it could have fingers 912, 932, 952 and a tab 954, **but these would not be resilient** as required for the fingers 912, 932, 952 and a spring tab 954 in Hwang. Thus, it would not be obvious to combine the references as the examiner has stated because this would destroy the ability of the grounding device 90 to function as intended. If the grounding device 90 was a diecast member, it would not have outward grounding fingers 912, 932, 952 which could **resiliently** abut against corresponding edges (not labeled) of the panel 200 that surround the opening 202, nor a central outward spring tab 954 which could **resiliently** abut against an inner face 203 of the plate 200. See column 5, lines 17-26 of Hwang. Thus, it was not obvious to make the grounding device 90 of Hwang as a diecast member. The examiner is requested to reconsider his rejection.

In a similar fashion, it appears that the examiner believes that it would be obvious to make the metal shell 20 of Yamaguchi et al. as a die cast member. However, Yamaguchi et al. discloses that the metal shell 20 is formed from a metal blank (as seen in Fig. 10) into the metal shell so that it may be fixed readily and firmly to the connector housing 10 (see column 7, lines 33-34). The metal shell 20 is deformed on the connector housing 10 such that the engagement pieces 27 are received in the openings 29 (see column 7, lines 35-40) and capture the connector housing 10 between the front panel portion 22 and the fixing pieces 28. If the metal shell 20 of Yamaguchi et al. was made as a diecast member, it could not have engagement pieces 27 and fixing pieces 28 which could be bent to attach the metal shell to the connector housing 10. This would destroy the ability of a diecast metal shell to properly attach to the connector housing 10. Thus, it was not obvious to make the metal shell 10 of Yamaguchi et al. as a diecast member. The examiner is requested to reconsider his rejection.

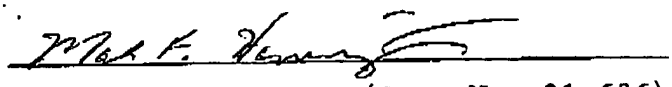
Though the claims dependent upon claim 1 contain their own allowable subject matter, these claims should at least be allowable due to their dependence from allowable claim 1. However, to expedite prosecution at this time, no further comment will be made.

In regard to Bright, Bright fails to disclose a shielding cage having a diecast metal section provided with SMT tails for mounting said section to the PCB. In Bright, the diecast element is a gasket free of any SMT mounting legs. The objective problem to be solved, which the present invention

can be seen as providing, is an improved shielding cage having a robust front side and which is adapted to lessen forces to the board connector during plugging of a cable connector. In view of the cited prior art, it is believed that the skilled person does not find any incentive to implement SMT tails with the diecast metal section.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



12/21/07

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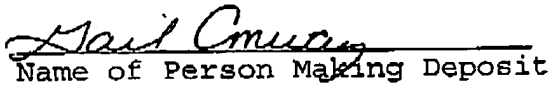

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